



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/816,820	03/22/2001	Hector Rodriquez	10990200-1	6153

7590 10/19/2004
HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
P. O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

TRAN, DOUGLAS Q

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2624

DATE MAILED: 10/19/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/816,820	Applicant(s) RODRIGUEZ, HECTOR	
	Examiner Douglas Q. Tran	Art Unit 2624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5, 7-19, 21 and 22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4, 6 and 20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 3/22/01 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-3, 5, 7-19, 21-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Miyamoto et al (US Patent No. 4,591,884).

As to claim 1, Miyamoto teaches a printing system comprising:

a printer (1 fig. 1); and

first accessory device (i.e., a first paper handling portion 420 in fig. 16 or fig. 17) coupled to receive printed pages from the printer, wherein the first accessory device contains a straight-through paper path (443 in fig. 16) and a reversing paper path (444 in fig. 16) to reverse the order of the printed pages received from the printer (col. 15, lines 30-49).

As to claim 2, Miyamoto discloses every feature discussed in claim 1, and further teaches the reversing paper path reverses the order of the printed pages received from the printer prior to processing the printed pages (col. 15, lines 30-49).

As to claim 3, Miyamoto discloses every feature discussed in claim 1, and further teaches the printer has an output coupled to the first accessory device, wherein the first accessory device receives printed pages from the printer output (col. 15, lines 30-49).

Art Unit: 2624

As to claim 5, Miyamoto discloses every feature discussed in claim , and further teaches the straight- through paper path maintains the printed pages in the same order as received from the printer (col. 15, lines 30-49).

As to claim 7, Miyamoto discloses every feature discussed in claim, and further teaches the first accessory device is a stapler (step of binding in fig. 30).

As to claim 8, Miyamoto discloses every feature discussed in claim, and further teaches the first accessory device is a binding device (step of binding in fig. 30).

As to claim 9, Miyamoto discloses every feature discussed in claim 1, and further teaches the first accessory device inserts additional media into the printed pages (col. 15, lines 30-49).

As to claim 10, Miyamoto discloses every feature discussed in claim 1, and further teaches the first accessory device is a hole punching device (step of binding in fig. 30).

As to claim 11, Miyamoto discloses every feature discussed in claim, and further teaches the first accessory device is a mailbox device (429 in fig. 16) with multiple locations to receive printed sheets.

As to claim 12, Miyamoto discloses every feature discussed in claim 1, and further teaches wherein the printer is a laser printer (301 in fig. 1).

As to claim 13, Miyamoto discloses an accessory device (i.e., a first paper handling portion 420 in fig. 16 or fig. 17) capable of being coupled to receive printed pages from a previous device, the accessory device comprising:

a straight-through paper path (443 in fig. 16) that maintains the printed pages in the same order as received from the previous device; and

Art Unit: 2624

a reversing paper path (444 in fig. 16) to reverse the order of the printed pages received from the previous device (col. 15, lines 30-49).

As to claim 14, Miyamoto teaches the reversing paper path reverses the order of the printed pages received from the previous device prior to processing the printed pages (col. 15, lines 30-49).

As to claim 15, Miyamoto teaches the accessory device is coupled to an output of the previous device to receive printed pages from the previous device (col. 15, lines 30-49).

As to claim 16, Miyamoto teaches including an output capable of being coupled to a second accessory device to allow the second accessory device to receive printed pages from the accessory device (col. 15, lines 30-49).

As to claim 17, Miyamoto teaches the accessory device further processes the printed pages received from the printing device (col. 15, lines 30-49).

As to claim 18, Miyamoto teaches a method comprising:

generating a plurality of printed pages from a printing device (3 in fig. 16);

outputting the plurality of printed pages, in reverse order, from the printing device to a first accessory device (i.e., a first paper handling portion 420 in fig. 16 or fig. 17) coupled to the printing device;

processing the received printed pages in the first accessory device (i.e., a first paper handling portion 420 in fig. 16 or fig. 17), wherein the first accessory device has a straight-through paper path (443 in fig. 16) that maintains the printed pages in the same order as received from the printing device and a reversing paper path (444 in fig. 16) to reverse the order of the printed pages received from the printing device (col. 15, lines 30-49).

Art Unit: 2624

As to claim 19, Miyamoto teaches including outputting the plurality of printed pages from the first accessory device to a second accessory device coupled to the first accessory device (col. 15, lines 30-49).

As to claim 21, Miyamoto teaches including communicating processing instructions from the printing device to the first accessory device (col. 15, lines 30-49).

As to claim 22, Miyamoto teaches the instructions determine whether the first accessory device is required to process the printed Pages (col. 15, lines 30-49).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 4, 6 and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claims 1 and 18 respectively, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas Q. Tran whose telephone number is (703) 305-4857 or E-mail address is douglas.tran@uspto.gov.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Douglas Q. Tran
Oct. 14, 2004

